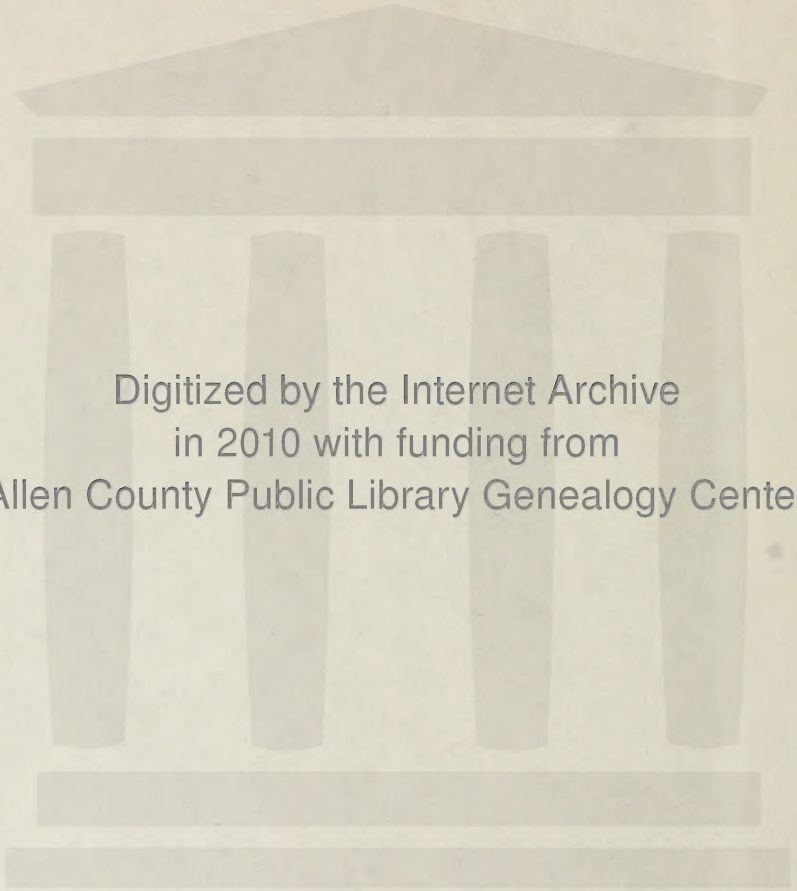
Gc
929.2
St3149



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2010 with funding from
Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center

http://www.archive.org/details/steelefamily00unit

GEN

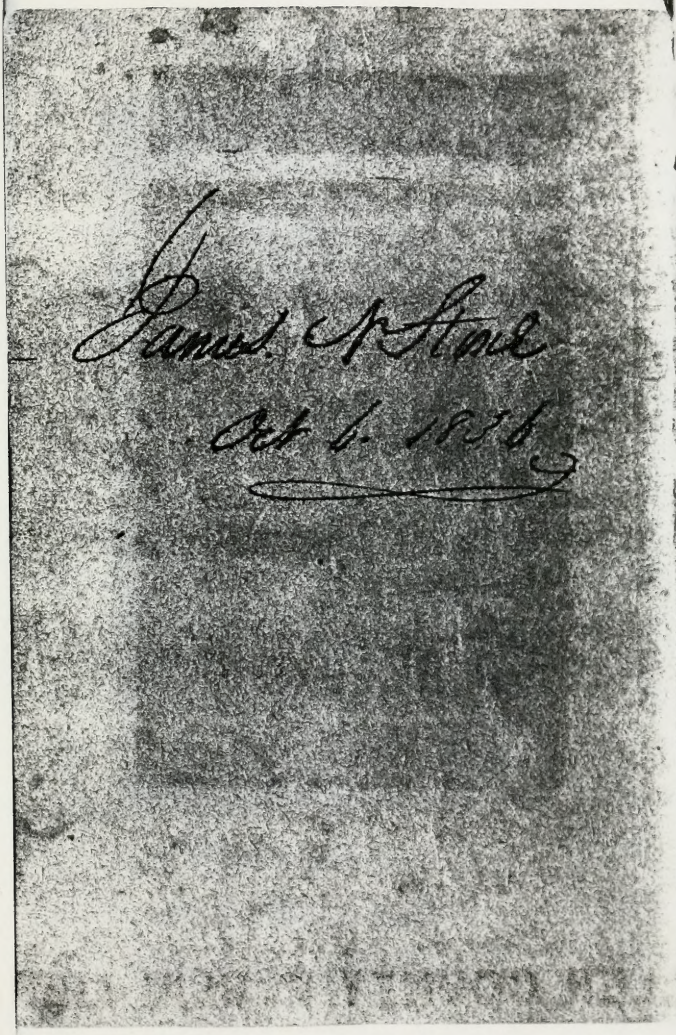
ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 1833 01596 9279

Gc 929.2 St3149

Steele family

Steele Family

Allen County Public Library
Ft. Wayne, Indiana


Saml. Stone
Oct 6. 1838

1896

STONE.—At Coatesville, Sunday morning, February 2, SARAH M., widow of the late Charles H. Stone, of Philadelphia.

Funeral Church of the Trinity, Coatesville, Pa., Wednesday, February 5, at 10·30 A. M. Interment private.

LOCAL OBITUARY.

Rev. Stewart Stone Dies at His Home from Pneumonia.

Rev. Stewart Stone, vicar of the Protestant Episcopal Memorial Church of the Holy Comforter, Nineteenth and Titan Streets, died on Thursday at 1 o'clock at his residence, 324 South Seventeenth Street.

1896

Mr. Stone has been ill with pleurisy for two weeks, which finally developed into pneumonia. It was thought in the morning that he was recovering, and his brother, who lives in the West, bid him good-bye to return home. He went to Germantown to see his sister, and while there received the news of the death of the vicar.

Mr. Stone was a native of Philadelphia, and was born in 1854. He was a graduate of the Rittenhouse Academy, and of Trinity College, Hartford, Conn. He received his theological training at the Berkeley Divinity School, Middletown, Conn., was ordained deacon in 1883 and priest in 1884. He was, until the latter part of 1884, assistant priest at St. Peter's Church, Albany. He then became vicar of the Church of the Holy Comforter. His wife, who survives him, was a Miss Hall, of Albany.

OBITUARY.

At a meeting of the Vestry of St. Paul's Church, West Whiteland, held on third day of June, 1888, the Secretary was directed to make the following minute in the minute book, expressive of the feelings of the Vestry in view of the death of their late colleague, Mr. JOHN W. STONE, Senior Warden.

Minute—The Vestry of St. Paul's Church, West Whiteland, desire to make herein a record of their high appreciation of the character and bearing of their departed fellow member, Mr. John W. Stone, Senior Warden.

For twenty-eight years he was a member of this parish and one of its vestry and constantly manifested an earnest and faithful interest and activity in whatever concerned its prosperity and the right direction of its affairs; superintending its Sunday school and acting as lay reader at times when the rectorship was vacant.

He cherished a deep and enthusiastic attachment to the Church of his birth as a branch of the Catholic Church of Christ, at once evangelical in doctrine and apostolical in order; heartily loving its spirit of reverence and sobriety, and its sacred and time honored liturgical use.

His christian courtesy and the modesty of his spirit led him ever to seek the things that make for peace. He discharged his duties as citizen, neighbor and head of a household in the fear of God, controlled and guided by a sincere christian conscience.

While mourning his loss, we thank God for the good example of this his servant, conscious that it is ours to emulate.

To the family of our departed fellow member we beg to offer our sincerest sympathy in their bereavement and commend them to the consolation that cometh from above, from the Father of spirits, with whom is he whom they mourn, while to them his good life here will be a constant benediction and an inspiring memory.

Resolved. That a copy of this minute be transmitted by the secretary to the family of the deceased and to the Village Record for publication.

GEORGE W. JACOBS, Jr., Secretary

Toad Hall

The residence of the Steele family was situated in the parish of Barthomley in Cheshire England. about 4 miles from a small town called Wheelock of some trade on the head waters of the Weaver How long it had been in this family is not known. It was a freehold first granted them by a certain Sir Gilbert Ireland (possibly the feudal lord of the district) and entailed upon the oldest son no other rent being required than the payment of a trifling sum when a Heir

occupant took possession of the estate.— No tradition remains of the erection of the mansion— It was a very old building and the unusual size of the Elm trees that shaded the front, increased its venerable appearance. It is described by the family who left it in 1795 as being not materially different in its general appearance from most other old Halls of the same class which were standing at that day, but there were some peculiarities about it that belonged to an earlier age, and from the care evidently taken to main-

the means of concealment
with those of defence ——
It seems probable that it
was erected at a time, when
civil dissensions made it
necessary for every man's
house to become literally
his castle. At the entrance
was a very heavy and
strongly ironed door, which
as it could scarcely in any
age have been a matter
either of convenience, or taste
must have resulted
from the exigencies of the times
Another unusual thing was
a back door in one of the

upper room, from which there
was a secret passage leading
to an apartment in the
chimney about large enough
to contain a chair and a
small table, The name
which tradition had given
for this hiding place was the
"Popes hole". Perhaps it has
served as a place of refuge
for some persecuted Catholic,
as the estate is known to have
belonged during the Civil war
of 1642 to one, who, if he did
not favour, certainly did not
oppose the Royalist cause.—
One end had evidently been
of the building

designed for a chapel, as the walls were covered with texts from Scriptures in Latin, Greek and old English characters and the style of its architecture was more that of a church. Some of the old furniture was as antiquated as the building itself. The bedsteads were fixtures, and were interesting relics of the fashion of former times. They were of dark brown wood, curiously carved and inlaid with white, and ornamented with figures of very grotesque appearance, but they were taken down with the rest

applied to other purposes when the family removed from the estate, as they were not adapted to any other dwellings, and the time for admiring their "cunning work" had passed away. The arms of the family were a conspicuous ornament on the carved oak panelling of the Hall, but of this it is only remembered that the supporters were savages, and an open or as it was called a bloody hand the crest. The particular circumstances that gain these insigna to our escutcheon, we cannot tell

but from the best lights which we have on the subject, we find that "men in Heraldry and honorable emblems, and a hand or arm indicates fortitude and strength." No tradition remains of the family previous to the grand rebellion of 1642 when Cheshire was for some time the seat of war ——— Beeston Castle, Acton and Nantwich were besieged in succession by the royalist forces from Ireland, and the work of devastation and bloodshed extended almost to the destruction of the dwelling

of the Steeles — At this time the family consisted of three brothers, two of whom were engaged actively in the struggle, but on different sides, while the third refusing to take part with either, secreted himself in a hollow tree where he was sustained by his family until the cessation of hostilities enabled him to return to his home — But we should not hastily infer from this circumstance that he was necessarily deficient either in ability to form an opinion, or courage to support it

since even at this day when
the cloud of prejudice and
party spirit is removed
it is perhaps difficult to
say which army had the
most right on its side
Circumstanced as he was
a man might well "halt
between two opinions" but
by doing so he incurred the
resentment of each party
and probably exposed himself
to more danger than if under
the protection of either he
had sought the open field
He was the eldest son
and the proprietor of the estate

His great grandson George Steele, remembered in his childhood to have seen the Cavalier then a very old man, with an impediment in his speech said to have been caused by the passage of a musket ball through his cheek.— A long iron hilted sword which belonged to him, is still in the family and probably is of the kind nearly worn at that day as we are told that it resembles one used by Cromwell himself and preserved with his armour at Nasely where

he fought one of his most
memorable battles ——
Of the third brother no record
remains. Another account
informs us of a large family
of sons. the youngest of
whom insisted at seeing
the whole property fall to
the lot of the eldest brother
left and came to America
If this be correct there
must have been the immediate
descendants of the person
who held the estate during
the rebellion, as a connected
register remains of the
family after that period

He who succeeded to the property it appears married Elizabeth Vernon a lady of very respectable and aspiring Family at Northwich In an old bible which belonged to them we find a register of the births of their Children of which the following is a literal copy ——

Elizabeth Steele was born ye 17th day of June being Wednesday about halfe an hor past 7 o'clock in the morning an was baptized in Jacd Hall House by^e 6th

day of July 1699. ——
George Steele was born
ye 25th day of December
being Friday, about a
quarter of an hor before
nine oclock at night
and was baptized the 13
day of January in Jaed
Hall house 1702
John Steele was born
ye 1st day of August, being
Wednesday a quarter of an
hor past two oclock in ye
morning and was baptized
ye 22d day of August in
Jaed Hall house 1705

I had who remember Elizabeth
describe her, as a woman of
dignified and correct manners
and superior in scholastic
attainments to females generally
of her day — She married Mr
Smith the clerk and schoolmas-
ter of the Parish and left
two children a son Richard,
and a daughter who married
a Mr Ford. Mrs Ford was
left a widow and again
married Mr Astbury — She had
several sons who when young
were smart and promising
youths, but what became of
them in after life we do not

know — John Slade — the
second son was educated
for the Bar — He completed
his studies at Oxford and
was for some time one of the
trustees of Christ's College.
When he commenced practice
as a lawyer he removed to
London, where he married and
fixed his residence in the
parish of St Dunstan's, Fetter
Lane. He survived his wife
nine years. Left no children
and was interred at his own
request in Hackney Church yard
A diamond ring containing
the hair and initials of his

mother ~~[illegible]~~, a silver seal, with the crest of the family arms engraved upon it, and several other rather antique articles of plate which are preserved in the family — were received from him. This is mentioned, as persons interested in the family altho might wish to know their date, and history ——

George — the eldest son succeeded to the farm. He married Esther Broadhead, a lady from one of the neighboring families. They also had three children George, John, and Elizabeth

Elizabeth was born at
Barkhamby the 25th of Sept 1732
George — was born the 25th
of January 1737.
John was the youngest,
the date of his birth is not known
Elizabeth married M.r Smith
a farmer in the neighborhood
She was early left a widow
with a young family, which
she trained up in plain, and
business like habits, but —
when her brother George removed
with his family to the estate
of his wife at Cuddington;
the distance though not great
was sufficient to prevent

frequent intercourse, and on the emigration of the latter to America, all correspondence between the families ceased — John appears to have been a man of considerable ability and taste. He excelled in music and painting, and the beauty of his penmanship was remarkable, but the versatility of his character prevented him from turning any of his talents to very profitable account — In early life his friends endeavoured to direct his attention to agricultural pursuits, but he very

soon abandoned these for music, a study better suited to his taste ——
He expended the property which he received from his Uncle John, in the purchase of a neat place at Lambeth London, where he resided and devoted himself to his profession. He was a man of somewhat eccentric and irritable temper and his brother having unintentionally given him some slight offence the intercourse between them was not very frequent ——
He had only one son a youth

of very delicate constitution who for some time accompanied with his uncle's family but as his letters ceased and he was never mentioned in the letters from his father to his friends in America it was feared that he had not long survived. The family in this generation seem to have departed from what had formerly been their custom for while they endeavoured though vainly to turn the attention of the youngest son to agriculture. George the eldest was destined for

the Bar, and with this
friend received a classical
education The death of his
great uncle Mr Vernon
of Northwich with whom
he expected to have studied
frustrated all his plans
and he relinquished all
idea of the law and employed
himself in the Counting House
of Mr Vernons Son-in-Law
Mr Mort, After remaining
there for some time he
was appointed agent for
the management of a mill
and some other property which
Mr Mort owned in the

parish of Merrhain. about
20 miles distant — In this
situation he remained
until he had attained his
20 3 year when he married
Hannah daughter of
Peter and Edith Dutton
of the village of Cuddington
Shortly after this event
he returned to Bartholmly
and settled upon his patrimonial
estate where he continued
to reside until the death
of John Dutton his wife's
only brother, as this gentleman
left no immediate descendants
the Dutton estate reverted

to his Sisters, and George Steele again removed to Cuddington where he Continued to reside until the year 1795 when he emigrated to America— The life right which he still had in the old residence of the family was sold and at his death as there was no one to renew the lease the property returned to the Lord of the Manor Lord Crewe

The family burial ground was under an Old Yew tree in a corner of Barthomley Church yard

a spot which if we could visit it would no doubt furnish many memorials of members of the family whose fate is now unknown. They seem generally to have been firm in their attachment to the established church and liberal many of them in their charities. A tablet on the wall of the old church records are annually left by one of the Steeles to be expended in the purchase of a weekly supply of bread for the poor and that their

spiritual good might at the same time be promoted it was required to be placed on a shelf over the church door and only given to those who came there on Sunday to receive it. Another inscription mentions a fund left for the support of a free school in the Parish which was to be kept open as long as there were any children in the family near enough to be benefited by it, but the stories told of it do-

not convey a very favorable impression of its usefulness. The late George Steele used to say that he was the last who went there and he finally left because there were no children there to play with. But such anecdotes as these only prove that the bequest was not attended to, they detract nothing from the benevolent intentions of him who made it

A few branches of Steele
and Stone families ——

Vernon. (Lawyer) of Knidderton (Great Uncle of Uncle S. father)
Mort. who married Vernon
an extensive Salt-works.
Proprietor — another Vernon
married Sir William
Dukinfield, both daughters of Lawyer Vernon —
Beswick. a wealthy wholesale
Grocer of London.
John Vernon brother of Lawyer
Vernon married a Steele
Eaton — a daughter of whom
married Mr Dutton. the
Father of Uncle Steeles

* See Mrs Gaskell's Life of Charlotte Bronte Vol 1 p 16

Mother (my great Grand
Mother) — another daug
— hter married Mr Wakefield
of Liverpool, a wealthy
man engaged in some
business there; but afterwards
connected with the celebrated
Mr Roscoe in the draining
of some marsh land belong
— ing to Government which
proved highly profitable
A sister of the above Mr
Wakefield was the
noted Priscilla Wakefield
whose travels through
England excited some

time ago a great deal of
Curiosity
The Hanford Estate of
which Father is heir is in
the possession of a Mr Marsh
all who has improved it
very much. A salt
mine has been discovered
upon it since, but we
hope and entertain'd
that it will ever be
secured to us (Over)

Uncle Steele's Grand
mother on his Father's side
was a Miss Vernon — His
Grd Father was a Mr

Johnadeb Vernon — His
God Mother a Mrs Roulls
of Mill End.

The Dutton Estate was in
the family for several
hundred years, probably
since the Norman invasion
as the Deeds were in Norman
French.

Mr de Walleys partner
in Liverpool in Ship building
was Mr Rathbone a friend
of Mr Roscoe the Author
He was a man of wealth
and influence

Inchcolley was the first
builder who introduced
the "raking" of Ship Masts.
also the introduction of
"Studding Sails" and the
upper sails - such as. the
"Royal" and "Skyscraper" &c

Chatham. England

The Hartford Estate -
was Mortgaged by Charles
Stone & Mr Marshall
for £900. - and. upon the
death of C. S. none
coming forward to lay claim
to it, it was left in the
possession of Mr Marshall
He afterwards sold

it to a Mr Howard for
£10.000. but the Title not
being good Howard refused
to take it — remarking that
some of the Stones heirs might
come forward & claim it —
A letter from Samuel Stones
my father's Cousin — speaks
mournfully about it — It
is afraid it will end of this
sort. Mrs. Agnes Rhode
Marshall resided at
Hartford Beach in 1852
and Lady Amelia Kay
at Green Bank —
Both these properties are
Fathers legal Estates.

9

The Woods and Meadows are called "Stone Woods" and "Stone Meadows" to this day.—

Capt. Stark to the west executed a Deed for surrounding Lands to Col. Bayard & the Royalists from an Ancestor of Uncle Stark. The Deed in the possession of the Family, Bayard by Judge [illegible] to the Candidate The Royalist

Mrs Agnes Healy Marshall lives at Hartford Beach in Iowa Co.

The Hartford Estate was Mortgaged by Mr Lewis Stone for 2500 afterwards transferred to a Mr Marshall ~~who sold it~~ afterwards sold it for 10 Thousand Pound but was not taken on account of the title not being good

The above was written by Mr John Stone — my father (MS)

HECKMAN
BINDERY INC.
JUL 85
N. MANCHESTER,
INDIANA 46962